BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 98-350-E - ORDER NO. 2001-449

MAY 15, 2001

| IN RE: | Request of Carolina Power & Light Company for Approval of Premier Power Service (Experimental) Rider PPS-2 and Premier |) | ORDER APPROVING |
|--------|--|---|-----------------|
| | Power Service Contract. |) | |

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on the request of Carolina Power & Light Company (CP&L or the Company) for approval of modifications to Premier Power Service (Experimental) Rider PPS. CP&L is seeking to revise this rider to 1) more clearly describe CP&L's ability to utilize this generation to derive system load benefits and 2) identify the expiration date of the 5-year experimental period previously approved by the Commission as being August 12, 2003.

CP&L requests Commission approval to expand the experiment to permit the dispatch of premier power generation to meet system load requirements. This will allow the testing of dispatch software and procedures and improve the overall reliability of service to all customers. According to the Company, the ability to dispatch the generation will also permit CP&L to evaluate different operating schemes to assess the most efficient and economical mode of maximizing the benefit of this CP&L-owned generation. The Monthly Rate provision is revised to clearly state that the Monthly Services Payment will not be impacted by any equipment installed by the Company to support the dispatching capability nor any expenses incurred by operating the generation for other than normal testing or back-up purposes. In the future, Premier Power

Also, the Commission's initial Order in this matter approved a 5-year window for CP&L to complete installations during the experiment. CP&L requests that the Rider be revised to clearly state that this 5-year period will expire on **August 12**, 2003 to coincide with the expiration date already approved for the Rider.

CP&L further requests that we approve these revisions without notice and hearing, pursuant to SC Code Ann. Section 58-27-870(F), which allows such approvals in situations where the revisions do not require a determination of CP&L's entire rate structure and overall rate of return, is for experimental purposes, and does not result in a rate increase. We agree that the section cited by CP&L applies to this request, and therefore, approve the requested revisions to the Rider as filed, since the revisions appear to be reasonable under the circumstances.

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

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Chairman

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ATTEST:

Executive Director

(SEAL)